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28 February 1964

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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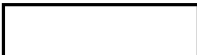
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DAILY BRIEF

Cyprus: Only minor incidents have occurred on the island, but the situation remains explosive.

Makarios now apparently intends to disarm the Turkish Cypriots and to bring about the removal of British security forces from Cyprus.

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Turkish officials regard Makarios' latest moves as highly provocative. Foreign Minister Erkin has asked US Ambassador Hare to meet with him today to discuss what will happen if peace efforts fail and large-scale violence again breaks out. The ambassador feels that the Turks are now seriously concerned over increasing Soviet involvement, as well as over the possible Greek reaction to Turkish intervention.

[With regard to Soviet shipping to Cyprus, new information establishes that only one Russian cargo ship unloaded in Famagusta on 26 February.] A Soviet-Cypriot civil air agreement reportedly will be signed in Nicosia tomorrow. The Turkish press has announced that a Soviet civil air flight will arrive in Nicosia today.

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The US Embassy in Athens reports that the wave of emotion over Cyprus has become more pronounced, and that the agitation has an anti-US and anti-British

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flavor. Greek political and military leaders have reiterated that Greece intends to intervene if Turkey moves against Cyprus. Prime Minister Papandreou calls war between Greece and Turkey "insane," but he told US Ambassador Labouisse on 26 February that if the Turks intervene, he is prepared to "go to the insane asylum with Inonu."

The Cypriot Government remains adamantly opposed to a summit meeting of Greek, Turkish, and British leaders. The appointment of a Cypriot ambassador to Paris suggests that Makarios may soon make a formal bid to De Gaulle to enter the Cyprus picture.

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DAILY BRIEF

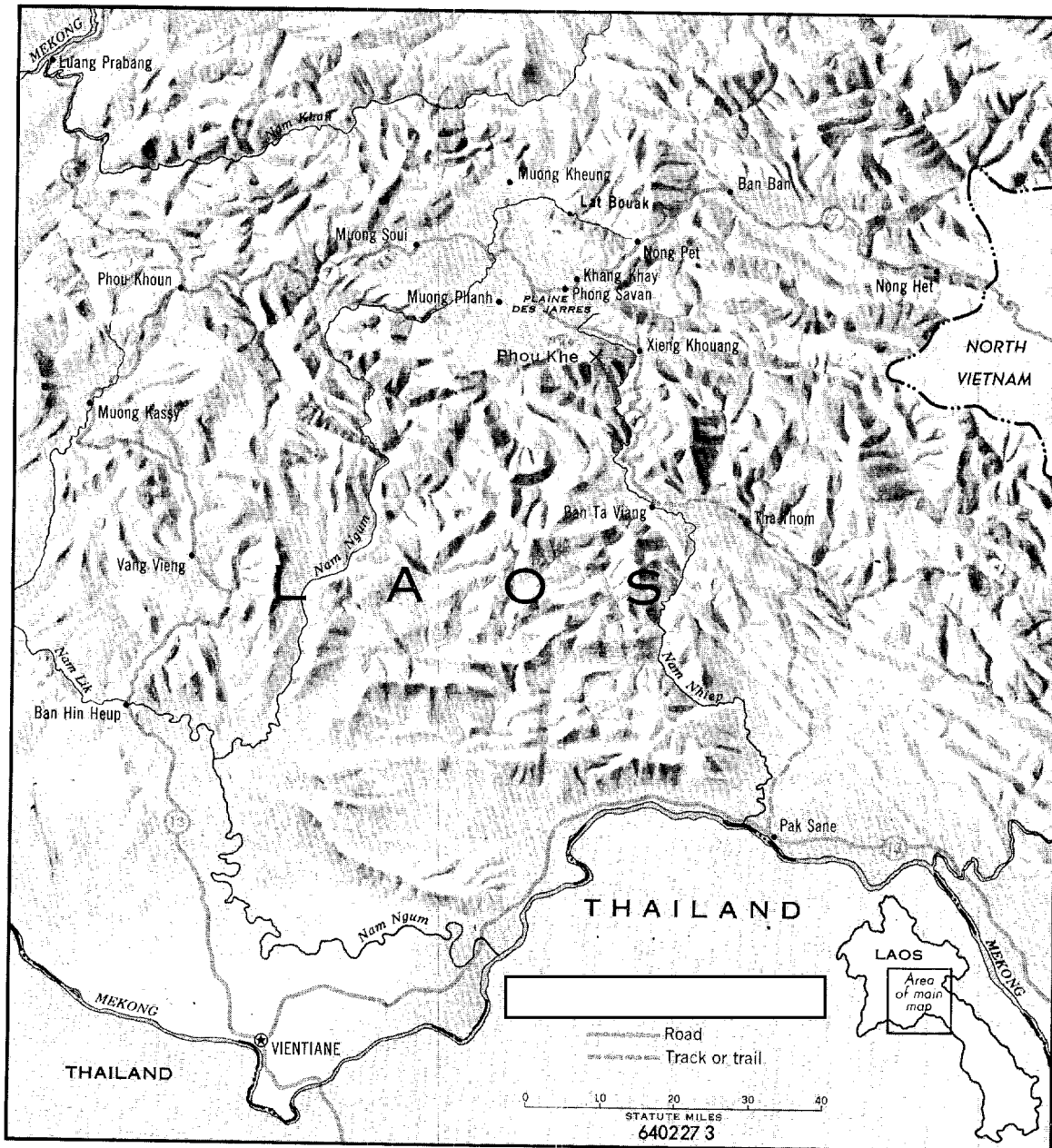
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Laos: New Communist military advances in the Plaine des Jarres area threaten to disrupt preparations for talks between the three factions.

On 25 February, Communist forces drove rightist Meo guerrillas from positions on Phou Khe, a height guarding the southeast approach to the Plaine des Jarres. This action occurred a day after representatives of the rightist, neutralist, and Pathet Lao factions met in Vientiane to plan for a Plaine des Jarres "summit" meeting.

[Ultimate Communist military intentions in this area are unclear, but one immediate objective apparently was to gain full control over the supply route to Xieng Khouang town via Route 4, which was within range of Meo mortars on Phou Khe.]

[Control of Phou Khe would also facilitate a move against Kong Le's headquarters at Muong Phanb should the Communists wish to undertake such a major action.]

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West Berlin: Mayor Brandt and Chancellor Erhard are apparently in serious disagreement on the Berlin pass question.

Brandt told US officials on 25 February that although he wanted to renew the December pass agreement, which permitted East German officials to operate in West Berlin, Erhard would not permit it. Brandt said this disagreement, temporarily papered over, will inevitably surface again.

The mayor attributed Erhard's opposition to the influence of a "hard" group including Foreign Minister Schroeder, Adenauer, and Rainer Barzel, acting Bundestag leader of the Christian Democrats.

He thought Schroeder's chief concern was that continuation of the pass talks would be inconsistent with his own efforts to isolate East Germany by establishing trade missions in the Eastern European countries.

Brandt said, however, that Erhard had agreed to further talks. Brandt felt these might be held in April or May.

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NOTES

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Belgium-Congo: Foreign Minister Spaak appears personally receptive to the US proposal that US military teams be sent to the Congo quickly to assist in retraining the Congolese National Army (ANC). He noted, however, that a final Belgian decision depended upon the reaction of Congolese and other Belgian officials. In discussing the matter with US Ambassador MacArthur, Spaak spoke most critically of Belgium's delay in retraining the ANC.

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